

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 04407 161315Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9157

INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 4407

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GR

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL SWEEPSTAKES

1. OVER THE WEEKEND, PRESS SPECULATION REGARDING WHO IS
LIKELY TO BE ELECTED PRESIDENT BY THE PARLIAMENT ON
JUNE 19 HAS SHIFTED TO PLACE DEPUTY-AT-LARGE CONSTANTINE
TSATSOS OUT IN FRONT WITH INTERIM PRESIDENT STASSINO-
POULOS AS THE SECOND MOST LIKELY POSSIBILITY.
PARLIAMENT PRESIDENT PAPACONSTANTINOU HAS APPARENTLY
PRETTY MUCH TAKEN HIMSELF OUT OF THE RACE.

2. HOWEVER, NOTHING IS DEFINITE UNTIL PRIME MINISTER
CARAMANLIS ANNOUNCES HIS CHOICE. THIS HE IS EXPECTED
TO DO AT A MEETING OF THE NEW DEMOCRACY PARLIAMENTARY
GROUP PROBABLY ON THE EVE OF THE ELECTION, JUNE 18.
MEANWHILE THE OPPOSITION PARTIES HAVE NOT YET DECIDED
WHETHER THEY WILL PRESENT A TOKEN CANDIDATE, ABSTAIN
(CAST BLANK BALLOTS) OR VOTE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S
CHOICE.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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